

Minutes
OF THE
**One Hundred Thirty-First
Annual Session
OF THE
Original
Bear Creek
Primitive Baptist Association**

HELD WITH
Lawyers Spring Church
ANSON COUNTY, PEACHLAND, NORTH CAROLINA
SEPTEMBER 13, 14, 15,

❧[1963]❧

Next session convenes with Crooked Creek Church located
in Union County, North Carolina, Friday before the third
Sunday in September, 1964.

OFFICERS

ELD. V. V. WILLARD - Moderator, Rt. 2, High Point, N. C.
TOMMY HORNE - Clerk, Peachland, North Carolina
OREN N. BAUCOM - Assistant Clerk, Charlotte, N. C.
4133 Seaforth Drive, 28205

The Primitive Baptist Publishing House
Elon College, North Carolina

Proceedings

OF THE 131st ANNUAL SESSION OF THE
ORIGINAL BEAR CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
FRIDAY, September 13, 1963.

The Association met in annual session with Lawyers Spring Church, Anson County, North Carolina, Friday, September 13, 1963, and continued through Saturday and Sunday following.

Brethren, sisters and friends met in the house about 10 a. m. After engaging in songs of praise, Elder Joe C. Helms led in prayer, and Elder V. V. Willard, pastor of Lawyers Spring Church delivered the Introductory Sermon, using as his text, Luke 1:1-4. After about an hour for refreshments, and greeting old and new friends and kindred in Christ, the Association convened in the house, and sang a few songs of praise, then Elder W. H. Hancock, Macon, Georgia, led in prayer, and the Association proceeded with business as follows: Elder V. V. Willard, pastor of Lawyers Spring Church served as Moderator, Brother Tommy Horne, Clerk of Lawyers Spring Church served as Clerk, and Brother Oren Baucum as Assistant Clerk.

1. Extended invitation to all orderly Primitive Baptists who are in good standing with their home churches to seats with us: All present seated.

2. Called for letters of representation from sister churches composing the Association, which were handed in, read, and their status noted:

Lawyers Spring: Represented by full membership.

High Point: Brethren C. C. Willard, Garnett Willard, Clay Willard, and T. E. Ragen.

Meadow Creek: Brethren R. L. Hathecock, A. F. Almond, V. E. Hatley, and H. V. Corbitt.

Watson: Brethren T. L. Simpson, H. N. Curlee, Fulton Helms, and S. C. Helms.

Pleasant Hill: Brethren Robert Copples, Rankin Richardson, G. L. Auman, and Huston Cox.

High Hill: Brethren John Moore, Howard Edwards, Larry Austin, and C. R. Hill.

Park View: Brethren Roy Craven, Paul Tucker, Brady Johnson, and Hubert Willard.

Liberty Hill: Brethren Buren Medlin, Vernon Medlin, C. C.

Furr, and Jerry Deese.

Pleasant Grove: Brethren T. B. Curlee, Brice Stegall, A. P. Mullis, and Glen Mullis.

Union Grove: Brethren Oren Williams, R. C. Austin, Jeff Taylor, and Tom Honeycutt.

Mountain Creek: Brethren Lane Vanhoy, Robert Medlin, Frank Medlin, and Leroy Plowman.

Bethel: Brethren R. J. Sommeret, W. C. Benton, Marsden Benton, and A. D. Melamb.

Union: Brethren V. H. Solomon, T. B. Polk, Lee Robinson, and Floyd Hawks, Jr.

Corinth: Brother Walter Peterson.

Mills Chapel: Brethren Rom Kerley, Jeff Hardy, Buren Williams, and J. Monroe McClelland.

Oak Grove: Brethren J. H. Gaddy, Lester Adams, Jesse Tartlon, and Clyde Summers.

Herrins Grove: Brethren J. L. Lewis, F. M. Harkey, J. M. Moyle, and W. B. Hatley.

Crooked Creek: Brethren John Hinson, Thomas Broadway, Bernard Simpson, and Junior Rushing.

Jerusalem: Brother C. B. Thomas, Sisters Eliza Thomas, Bessie Thomas, and Rossie Helms.

3. Called for petitionary letters: Letters were handed in and read from Crooked Creek Church, Union County, N. C., and Jerusalem Church, Anson County, North Carolina, asking to be restored into the membership of the Association. It was unanimously agreed by move, second and standing vote that they be received into our fellowship. Both churches having previously denounced the doctrine of absolute predestination of all things, and adopted their Minutes for the year of 1923 as their standard. They were received with much joy.

4. The Moderator was authorized to appoint Committees on Preaching and Finance: On Preaching: Elder Joe C. Helms, Elder C. M. Mills, Brethren Graydon Helms, Rankin Richardson and Howard Edwards. On Finance: Elder Brooklyn Willard, Brethren Lloyd Outen, Orlin Stewart, Verlon Corbitt, and Ellis Honeycutt.

5. Called for presbyteries to report: In response to a call
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from Meadow Creek Church, the following Elders and deacons formed into a presbytery, July 6, 1963, and ordained Brethren Ervin Hatley and Verlon Corbitt to the office of deacon. Elders C. M. Mills, E. H. Simpson, Brice Haigler, H. L. Poplin, A. E. Broadway, and Robert Sanders, Deacons Fred Endy, John Barbee, W. S. Medlin, Leonard Baecom, L. E. Outen, Oren Baecom, Carl Haigler, C. W. Griffin, T. B. Curlee, Melvin Mills, W. B. Simpson, Clifton Willard, T. E. Ragan, Paul Sanders, Elzie Annan, Rankin Richardson, Claude Pannell Athel Smith, Buren Williams, Roy Hardy, Craven Furr, John Almond, Fred Harkey, Thomas Broadway and Howard Edwards.

6. Invited visitors from corresponding Associations to seats with us:

Silver Creek: Elder H. C. McMillon and others.

Little River of North Carolina: Elder Henry Byrd, Elder Durt McGee and wife, Brother J. D. Staniel and wife, Brother Rom Clifton and wife, Brother Freddie Giles and wife, Brethren Pete Watkins, C. Dixon Hamilton, J. W. Boykin, Lonnie Johnson and others.

Original Towaliga: Elder Jerry Hunt and wife, Elder Elzie D. Speir, Sr., and Elder Earl Myers, Brother Roy Speir and wife.

Little River of Georgia: Elder M. M. Morton, Brother Ralph Dangar and wife.

Friendship of Georgia: Brother Clifford Cooke and wife, Sisters M. M. Morton, Beulah Corbitt, Inez Brand, and Sarah Brand, and Brother Tony O'Neal.

Tennessee-Nolachucky: No representation.

Powells Valley: Elders Joe Bowling and Kenneth C. Robbins, Brethren Ray Wells, Floyd Melton, Brother Ray Boyette and wife, Brother James Moore and wife, Brother George Hembree and wife, Brother Dewey Hembree and wife.

Mt. Zion of Alabama: Elder H. P. Copeland and wife.

7. Invited visiting brethren and sisters from Associations and churches with whom we do not carry formal correspondence:

New River Association: Elder O. A. Harris, Elder Alvin Puekett, Elder C. F. Martin and wife, Brother Roy Campbell and wife, and Bro. Leon Harris, Sister Hattie Cruise & others.

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Original Sequatchie Valley: Brethren W. C. Wilcoxen and E. D. Hale.

Pine Church: Brother C. E. Gallimore and others.

Wetumpka Association: Elder J. L. Burke.

Ketocton Association: Elder W. G. Fletcher.

Echeconne Association: Elder W. H. Haneock and wife, Elder C. E. Darity.

Martinsville Church: Brother Noel Wilson and family.

Cincinnati Church: Elder Laserte Bradley, Jr.

New Hope Church: Brother M. C. Campbell had wife and Sister Eugenia Campbell.

8. Appointed messengers to visit corresponding Associations as follows:

Silver Creek: Elders H. L. Poplin, A. E. Broadway, and P. H. Young.

Little River of North Carolina: Elders E. H. Simpson, Brice Haigler, V. V. Willard, and C. M. Mills.

Original Towaliga: Elders Brice Haigler and C. M. Mills.

Little River of Georgia: Elders E. H. Simpson, H. L. Poplin, and Brother W. B. Simpson.

Friendship of Georgia: Elders V. V. Willard, Joe Helms, and Brother T. B. Curlee.

Tennessee-Nolachucky: Elders Brice Haigler & C. M. Mills.

Powells Valley: Elder Joe Helms and Brother Tommy Horne.

Mt. Zion of Alabama: Elder V. V. Willard.

9. Unanimously agreed to continue correspondence with all churches and associations with whom we now correspond.

10. Elder E. H. Simpson was unanimously appointed to write the Corresponding Letter to be printed in the Minutes of this session of the Association.

11. Unanimously agreed to adjourn until Saturday morning at 9 o'clock. Benediction by Eld. W. G. Fletcher, Strasburg Va. SATURDAY, September 14, 1963.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Association met in the house at 9 o'clock a. m. After engaging in songs of praise and prayer by Elder E. H. Simpson, the Association continued with business as follows:

12. Called on Finance Committee to report. They reported

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as follows: Handed in by the churches ----- \$985.00
Contributed by friends ----- 67.00 \$1052.00

13. Agreed to distribute Minutes as usual.

14. Called for Corresponding Letter which was read and adopted.

15. Extended invitation for churches of the Association to call for fifth Sunday meetings. Unanimously agreed as follows:
September, 1963—Union Grove.
December, 1963—Lawyers Spring.

March, 1964—Union.

May, 1964—Crooked Creek.

August, 1964—Watson.

16. Unanimously agreed to hold the 1964 session of the Association with the church at Crooked Creek, Union County, N. C. beginning on Friday before the third Sunday in September, and continuing through Saturday and Sunday, and that the pastor of Crooked Creek Church preach Introductory Sermon.

17. On motion it was unanimously agreed to have 1300 copies of this Minute printed and distributed to the churches and associations as usual, and that Brother Oren Baucum superintend the printing and distribution, and that he be allowed \$155.00 for printing, mailing and Clerk's services.

18. On motion agreed unanimously to distribute all funds above that allowed in item 17 to ministers present, or any other the Finance Committee may deem proper.

19. It was unanimously agreed by standing vote that we return thanks to God for His mercy, and to the members and friends of Lawyers Spring Church and community for help in every way during this meeting, and all others who have contributed to our comfort. We extend a special thanks to Mr. W. H. Walters, Principal, and Marshville Elementary School for the use of the auditorium. May God richly bless you all.

20. Unanimously agreed to adjourn to time and place mentioned above. Benediction by Elder C. M. Mills.

ELDER V. V. WILLARD, Moderator
BROTHER TOMMY HORNE, Clerk
BROTHER OREN BAUCOM, Assistant Clerk

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FINANCIAL REPORT

Received from the churches	\$ 985.00
Received from friends	67.00
Expenditures:	
Printing, mailing, and Clerk's Service	155.00
Distributed to Ministers	887.00
	\$1052.00

ORDER OF PREACHING

Friday Morning:

Elder V. V. Willard, Luke 1:1-4.

Friday Afternoon:

Elder O. A. Harris, failed to get text.
Elder C. E. Darity, 1 Cor. 15:11.

Friday Night:

At Lawyers Spring:
Elder Kenneth Robbins, Rom. 5:1-4.
Elder H. P. Copeland, Heb. 10:1-4.

Saturday Morning:

New Building:
Elder Jerry Hunt, Heb. 12.
Elder W. G. Fletcher, Prov. 9:1-6.
Elder E. D. Speir, Psa. 144:9.
Old Building:
Elder C. F. Martin, 1 Pet. 4:12-18.
Elder Durl McGee, Rev. 21:1.

Saturday Afternoon:

New Building:
Elder H. C. McMillon, failed to get text.
Elder Henry Byrd, failed to get text.
Elder M. M. Morton, failed to get text.
Old Building:
Elder Alvin Puckett, Rev. 26:1-4.
Elder Kenneth Robbins, 1 John 2:1.

Saturday Night:

Lawyers Spring:
Elder Laserte Bradley, Jr., failed to get text.
Liberty Hill:

Elder Earl Myers, Heb. 11:12.
Elder J. L. Burke, 1 Cor. 13:11, 12.

High Hill:

Elder W. H. Hancock, 1 Pet. 1:2.
Elder H. P. Copeland, Heb. 13:7, 8.

Sunday Morning:

Marshville School Auditorium:
Elder J. L. Burke, 1 Tim. 3:16.
Elder Laserte Bradley, Jr., Hosea 13:14.
Elder H. P. Copeland, Song of Solomon 1:7.

Sunday Afternoon:

Elder W. H. Hancock, Heb. 13:10.
Elder A. E. Broadway, John 1:19.

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HOME MINISTERS

Elder V. V. Willard, Rt. 2, High Point, N. C.
Elder C. M. Mills, 3130 Central Ave., Charlotte, N. C.
Elder D. B. Willard, Rt. 6, Winston-Salem, N. C.
Elder E. H. Simpson, Rt. 4, Concord, N. C.
Elder H. L. Poplin, Route 2, Albemarle, N. C.
Elder Brice C. Haigler, Rt. 3, Monroe, N. C.
Elder Joe C. Helms, Peachland, N. C.
Elder P. H. Young, Rt. 1, Linwood, N. C.
Elder A. E. Broadway, Rt. 2, Monroe, N. C.
Licentiate Harlan J. Price, Rt. 2, Monroe, N. C.
Licentiate F. C. Willard, 2437 Marble St., Winston-Salem, N. C.

VISITING MINISTERS

Elders:

W. H. Hancock, 3879 Tela Place, Macon, Ga.
C. E. Darity, 3071 Bloomfield Dr., Macon, Ga.
W. G. Fletcher, Rt. 2, Strasburg, Va.
J. L. Burke, 5109 Court M., Birmingham, Ala.
M. M. Morton, 305 Ridgcrest Dr., Lawrenceville, Ga.
Jerry Hunt, 4560 Thompson Mill Rd., Decatur, Ga.
Elzie D. Speir, Sr. 4370 Depot St. Conley, Ga.
H. C. McMillon, Rt. 1, Box 462, Lenoir, N. C.
H. P. Copeland, Rt. 1, Arab, Ala.
Kenneth Robbins, Calvin, Ky.
Earl Myers, Rt. 2, Smyrna, Ga.
Laserte Bradley, Jr. Box 17032, Cincinnati, Ohio.
O. A. Harris, Rt. 4, Stuart, Va. *690 5483*
C. F. Martin, 103 Oak St., Galax, Va.
Durl McGee, Benson, N. C.
Henry Byrd, Benson, N. C.
Alvin Puckett, Rt. 2, Box 98, Meadows of Dan, Va.
Joe Bowling, Rt. 13, Fountain City, Tenn.

CORRESPONDING LETTER

To the messengers, churches of the Original Bear Creek Association and corresponding Associations with whom we are in fellowship.
Greetings:

God in His love and grace has blessed us to meet again in unity where love is manifested and brethren embracing each other in our arms, which is joy to our souls.

God has blessed the elders to preach salvation by grace, and blessings in obedience, wherein our hearts are made glad. May the Lord bless us to go on in this good way, ever looking unto Jesus, who is the author and finisher of our faith, for He has said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life."

We hope and pray to God that we will be blessed to meet again next year. We thank God for our visitors, and God help us to live in the way that we will have the influence of each other until we are carried home.

In love,

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—Elder E. H. Simpson

IN MEMORIAM

Once again we pause in solemn tribute to our dear members who have passed away since our last Association.

We do not believe that God is the author of sin and death, but of life everlasting. We rejoice in the glorious hope that in His own time, their bodies, with all the redeemed of God, will be raised and fashioned in His own glorious image, and eternally sing His praises in perfection.

"From the deepest caves of ocean, from the desert and the plains, From the valleys and the mountains, countless throngs shall rise again."

Lawyers Spring: Brother Gaston Caudle, Sister Nora Sanders.

High Point: Brother J. M. Snider, Sister Ana Belle Snider, Brother J. D. Shackelford, Sister Mildred Smith.

Meadow Creek: Brother N. D. Hathcock, Sister Daisy Tucker, Brother John F. Barbee.

Watson: Brother J. Troy Simpson, Brother J. D. Mullis.

Pleasant Hill: Brother S. L. Arrington.

High Hill: Brother Frank Peach, Sister Rettie Bagwell, Sister Nancy Pressley, Brother John Faille.

Park View: Brother Claud Quensby, Sister Burlson.

Liberty Hill: Brother L. M. Whitley, Sister Laura Coley, Brother Luther Medlin.

Bethel: Brother Oree Bell.

Union: Brother Jerry Johnson.

Union Grove: Sister Lou Stewart.

CLERK'S NOTE: This meeting is one long to be remembered. Not a note of discord heard throughout the meeting. Our beloved Moderator baptized five on Sunday morning, and at the close of the meeting Sunday afternoon, four little children came asking for a home with the church. All of the above ranging in age from ten to twenty. We trust we are thankful to God for His wonderful blessings.

The next session of the Association will be at Crooked Creek Church, Union County, N. C., located about ten miles north of Monroe, just off N. C. highway 218, about three miles east of N. C. highway 601.

CHURCHES, MEETING TIME, MINISTERS

Union Grove: 2nd Sunday A. M., Saturday Night	Pastor
4th Sunday Night	Minister by Invitation
Mountain Creek: 3rd Sunday A. M., Saturday Night	Pastor
Lawyers Spring: 1st Sunday A. M., Saturday P. M.	Pastor
3rd Sunday P. M.	Elder Joe C. Helms
High Point: 4th Sunday A. M., Saturday night	Pastor
2nd Sunday night	Pastor
Meadow Creek: 1st Sunday A. M., Saturday P. M.	Pastor
Watson: 4th Sunday A. M., Saturday P. M.	Pastor
2nd Sunday night	Elder Brice C. Haigler
Pleasant Hill: 3rd Sunday A. M., Saturday P. M.	Pastor
4th Sunday night	Pastor
High Hill: 1st Sunday P. M., Saturday night	Pastor
3rd Sunday A. M.	Elder Brice C. Haigler
Park View: 3rd Sunday A. M., Saturday night	Pastor
1st Sunday night	Pastor
Liberty Hill: 1st Sunday P. M., Saturday night	Pastor
Pleasant Grove: 2nd Sunday P. M., Saturday P. M.	Pastor
Bethel: 4th Sunday A. M., Saturday P. M. and night	Pastor
2nd Sunday A. M., Saturday night	Elders
E. H. Simpson and H. L. Poplin (alternating)	
Union: 1st Sunday A. M., Saturday night	Pastor
3rd Sunday P. M.	Pastor
Corinth: 3rd Sunday A. M.	Pastor
1st Sunday P. M.	Pastor
Mills Chapel: 2nd Sunday A. M., Saturday night	Pastor
4th Sunday P. M.	Elder E. H. Simpson
Oak Grove: 4th Sunday A. M., Saturday night	Pastor
2nd Sunday P. M.	Pastor
Herrins Grove: 4th Sunday P. M., Saturday night	Pastor
Crooked Creek: 4th Sunday A. M., Sat. P. M.	Pastor
Jerusalem: 2nd Sunday A. M., Sat. P. M.	Pastor

(On Communion Sundays, all churches meet at 10:00 A. M.)
(See Statistical Table for Communion times.)

RULES GOVERNING THE ORIGINAL BEAR CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

1. We understand that at whatever church this Association is being held, that it is being held solely under the authority of that church, just as any other regular or monthly conference.
2. That the officers and suffrages of that church shall be the officers and voice of the Association, except as that church may deem prudent to request any member of another church to assist in the business transactions of the Association.
3. This Association shall have no authority to pass upon any question of a disciplinary nature except it has been passed upon by the local churches composing this Association; then the work of the churches shall be recognized by the Association.
4. Any member who endeavors to bring in or inject a disciplinary question that involves fellowship, before it has been passed upon by the local churches, shall be considered out of order by the church with which the Association is being held, and by the messengers present from the sister churches.
5. The Association shall be conducted for no purpose other than song, prayer, and preaching services, and no business shall be transacted by the Association except that which is necessary or sets forth the status of each church composing this body in the form of a minute.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

- Article 1. We believe in one living and true God, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost.
- Article 2. We believe in the man Jesus being the first of all God's creation and the pattern of all God's perfection in nature, grace and glory, and in relative union with the Divine Word, and thus united with the whole Trinity.
- Article 3. We believe that the scripture of the Old and New Testaments contain the only written, revealed word of God and the perfect rule of faith and practice for God's Church in her militant state while here on earth.
- Article 4. We believe in the doctrine of election; that God chose His Church in Christ Jesus before the world began.
- Article 5. We believe in all mankind's apostasy by transgression in Adam, the federal head.
- Article 6. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.
- Article 7. We believe in the impotency of man to recover himself from his fallen state by his own free will and ability.
- Article 8. We believe that sinners are justified freely by grace and before God by faith in Christ and His righteousness only.
- Article 9. We believe that God's elect or Church shall be called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit in due time.
- Article 10. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never really fall away.
- Article 11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Christ's appointment, and that believers alone are the subjects of baptism and the only proper communicants of the Supper; that the mode of baptism is immersion, and that neither of the ordinances is to be altered or changed by the inventions or opinions

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of men. We believe in feet washing as taught by our Savior in St. John 13:4-17.

Article 12. We believe that no man, as a minister, has any right to the administration of any of the ordinances of the gospel except such as are sound in the faith of the gospel, regularly baptized, called of God and have come under the imposition of hands by a regular presbytery.

Article 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and the unjust, and a general judgment.

Article 14. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

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STATISTICAL TABLE

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